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IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms using hybridization of DNA corresponding to [[the]] an ITS region ("ITS-DNA").

Claim 2 (currently amended): [[A]] The molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that the ITS-DNA hybridization as claimed in claim 1 is performed on a membrane filter.

Claim 3 (currently amended): [[A]] The molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that the ITS-DNA hybridization as claimed in claim 1 is performed on a microplate.

Claim 4 (currently amended): [[A]] The molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that the ITS-DNA hybridization as claimed in claim 1 is performed on a DNA microarray.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms characterized in that wherein the technique described in any one of claims 2, 3 and 4 is used in identification of strains of microorganism.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms characterized in that wherein the technique described in any one of claims 2, 3 and 4 is used in detection and identification of microorganisms in foodstuffs, foods and drinks.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms characterized in that wherein the technique described in any one of claims 2, 3 and 4 is used in detection and identification of microorganisms in a living body, including clinical and enterobacteria.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A molecular biological identification technique for microorganisms characterized in that wherein the technique described in any one of claims 2, 3 and 4 is used in detection and identification of microorganisms in other environments.